

Thank you for inquiring about health care benefits under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA).

Who is Eligible for CHAMPVA

To be eligible for CHAMPVA you must be the spouse, widow/widower or child of a Veteran who:

- is rated permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected condition or
- died from a service-connected disability
- died while in an active-duty status and the dependents/survivors are not eligible for DoD TRICARE benefits (formerly CHAMPUS).

Eligibility For Those Age 65 and Older

Effective October 1, 2001, CHAMPVA benefits were extended to beneficiaries age 65 and older. To be eligible, you must also meet the following conditions:

- Your Veteran sponsor is not a retired military member (these family members are normally eligible for TRICARE for Life).
- if the beneficiary was 65 or older prior to June 5, 2001, and was **otherwise eligible** for CHAMPVA, and was entitled to Medicare Part A coverage, then the beneficiary will be eligible for CHAMPVA without having to have Medicare Part B coverage.
- If you turned 65 before June 5, 2001, and have Medicare Parts A and B, you must keep both Parts to be eligible.
- If you turned age 65 on or after June 5, 2001, you must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible.

When Benefits Start

You can use CHAMPVA after you receive your CHAMPVA Identification card (ID-card), which is sent with a handbook and other materials you need.

How to Apply

Required Documents

To apply for CHAMPVA benefits, you must submit the following documents:

- Application for CHAMPVA Benefits form (VA Form 10-10d)
- For individuals who are eligible for Medicare (normally those age 65 and older), we also need a copy of your Medicare card (please do not send originals).

- If you are age 65 or older and are not entitled to Medicare, you must send documentation from the Social Security Administration which confirms that you are not entitled to Medicare benefits under anyone's Social Security number.
- School certification of full-time enrollment for children ages 18–23

Send your complete package to:

CHAMPVA-Eligibility
PO Box 469028
Denver, CO 80246-9028

Application Process

It normally takes 3–6 weeks after we get your package until you get your CHAMPVA ID-card and related materials.

Once we get your application, we will review it to be sure its complete and that all the required forms are included. If your application is not complete, we will return it to you with further instructions.

Learn More About CHAMPVA Before Your Card Arrives

If you have access to the Internet, you can read more about CHAMPVA by checking out our web site at www.va.gov/hac

Where can I go for information about survivor benefits?

For information about benefits for surviving spouses and dependents of military personnel who died while in active military service and to the survivors of Veterans who died after active service please visit the Survivor Benefits Home Page at www.vba.va.gov/survivors

How do I get more information?

- Mail: VA Health Administration Center
CHAMPVA
PO Box 469063
Denver, CO 80246-9063
- Phone: 1-800-733-8387
- Email: please go to <http://www.va.gov/hac/contact> and follow the directions for submitting e-mail via IRIS
- Web: <http://www.va.gov/hac>